

The Watchman and Southern.
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—BY—
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SUMTER, S. C.
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The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1880 and the True Southern in 1896. The Watchman and Southern now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

Weekly Weather Forecast.
Issued by the U. S. Weather Bureau, Washington, D. C., for the week beginning Wednesday, August 4, 1915.
For South Atlantic and East Gulf States: Generally fair weather will prevail, except that local day showers are probable in the Florida peninsula. Temperatures nearly normal.

The Germans now at the high-tide of success on their offensive campaign, the semi-official intimations that the Kaiser is willing to consider peace negotiations may appear to the superficial thinker to show great and unbelievable magnanimity on the part of the victors. But a review of the German policies and methods during the past year conclusively proves that magnanimity is a sentiment utterly foreign to German militarism. If Germany desires peace now, if the Kaiser is willing to end the war without further devastation and death, the motive behind this desire is one of self interest and not magnanimity. If Germany is now willing to abandon the set and fixed determination so often announced in the early months of the war to dictate terms of peace from Paris, after overrunning France and permanently occupying the channel ports, it is because the Kaiser and his advisers have at last realized that the plan is hopeless, and that now is the most opportune moment for Germany to make peace. Now is the time that Germany can demand most and exact most from the Allies, and the Kaiser having played all the high cards in his hand, craftily suggests a division of everything in sight without playing the game to a finish. The fall of Warsaw is the most spectacular feature of the marvelously successful campaign that the Germans have waged against the Russians, but it is not the most momentous and significant. The adroitly phrased statements in the strictly censored semi-official German press that Germany is now willing to consider peace negotiations, following so closely the peace proclamation of the Pope, is really the outstanding feature of the week's war news. Germany is carrying the war into Russian territory as the supreme effort of an offensive campaign that taxes to the utmost her resources in men and munitions. It is more than probable that the Warsaw campaign will be the Gettysburg campaign of the Germans. The Germans knowing their own conditions seek peace now to escape future disaster.

VILLA TROOPS MUTINY.

Conditions in Mexico Become Worse Confused by Late Developments.
El Paso, Aug. 5.—With reports that Villa's troops have mutined at Torreón and that Villa has gone to Samal Yuca to confer with the United States agents, the Mexican situation took on a confused appearance. The Torreón garrison threw down their arms and marched through the streets shouting for peace. Villa sent word here that he will not stop fighting, and if necessary he will take to the mountains with what soldiers remain loyal to him.

WILL ENFORCE PEACE.

United States Adopts Stern Measures in Haiti.

Washington, Aug. 5.—Unless the various Haitian factions settle their differences the United States will establish a provisional government for the black republic by force of arms. The State department has decided on the man for president should Admiral Caperton's peace commission fail to settle affairs. Meantime the admiral has been ordered to continue disarming the natives.

Notice.

The Board of Registration will open their books at Mayesville on Friday, the 13th day of August, 1915, for the purpose prescribed by law.
S. J. WHITE,
Clerk Board.

THE BOOSTER TRIP.

SECOND TRADE EXCURSION WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11TH.

Itinerary of Trip Announced and Efforts Now Being Made to Enlist Interest of All Business Men.

The Retail Dealers' Association, and the Chamber of Commerce, of Sumter, are very anxious for the merchants of the smaller towns of Sumter and Clarendon counties and the farmers also, to participate in the get together between city and country booster trip to be run next Wednesday, August 11th to Tindals, Paxville, Pinewood, and S. A. Harvin's store.

Secretary Reardon has sent out a number of invitations to the owners of automobiles, living in the rural districts. Not knowing all of them, however, he has requested the Daily Item and Watchman and Southern to extend a general invitation to the people of the rural districts to participate. All automobiles, from country and city are requested to assemble at 7:30 o'clock, Wednesday morning next, at corner of Main and Liberty streets and start out together. It is contemplated that the get together booster trip will be a wide-spread inter-county affair between Clarendon and Sumter counties, and that matters of importance to all of the people of both counties, city, town, and rural districts will be discussed at the booster meetings.

The getting together of the business men and farmers for discussion of the questions relating to marketing, diversification, livestock industry, importance and value of trading with each other, keeping as much home money at home as possible, development of the educational facilities, good roads, etc., will do a great deal of good.

Throughout the United States, and in the Southern States in particular, this method of bringing the people of the rural districts and the smaller towns and trading centers into direct contact with the larger financial, commercial, and manufacturing centers is largely in vogue.

August, Ga., will in a few days run an automobile get together trade excursion through Georgia, North Carolina, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. The manufacturers, merchants, wholesale and retail, bankers, real estate men, and other business men will go along.

Fighting the mail order and bargain house business and pointing out how to develop the communities in which we live and get our living, showing that it doesn't pay to send home money off to build up Chicago, Baltimore, New York, and other distant cities for commercial commodities that could be purchased just as cheap and more satisfactorily at home, pointing out where it pays for incorporated communities, represented by the consumers and the business men to buy every possible dollar's worth of foodstuffs from home farmers, and wherein it pays the farmers to create a bigger demand for farm products at home by spending money with the cities and towns in their agricultural territory in order to create more business in and employ more people to consume foodstuffs grown and raised on the local farms, are among the features of a cooperative kind dwell on by the get together booster trips being put on.

Itinerary of trip:
Leave Sumter at 8 o'clock a. m., arrive at Tindals about 9 o'clock a. m.
Leave Tindals about 9:45 o'clock a. m., arrive at Paxville about 10:40 o'clock a. m.
Leave Paxville about 11:45 o'clock a. m., arrive Pinewood about 12 o'clock m.
Leave Pinewood about 2 o'clock p. m., arrive S. A. Harvin's store about 3:45 p. m.
Leave Harvin's store about 4:30 p. m., arrive Sumter 5:30 o'clock p. m.

Automobile owners and citizens contemplating participating in this excursion are requested to assemble on East Liberty street, opposite Chamber of Commerce, by 7:30 a. m. Every automobile owner may decorate his car or not to suit his pleasure. Any firm, bank or individual may advertise their business as much as they like.

KILLS CONVICT; ACCIDENT.

Calhoun Guard Cleaning Pistol When It Is Discharged.

St. Matthews, Aug. 2.—Nathan Carr, a negro convict, was killed accidentally by John Gary Inabinet, a chain gang guard, yesterday afternoon near Bethel church, nine miles north of here, where the gang is camped. All the evidence presented at the coroner's inquest agreed that the killing was accidental and the jury returned a verdict to that effect. Mr. Inabinet was cleaning his pistol when it was accidentally fired and the bullet struck Carr, who was in the convicts' cage near by. Carr has served fifteen days of a short sentence, having been convicted of stealing several dollars from the store of G. W. Willard, of Fort Motte.

STATE CAMPAIGN TALK.

MATTER OF ABOLISHING COUNTY TO COUNTY CANVASS RECEIVING ATTENTION.

Many Politicians Strenuously Oppose Plan to Do Away With old Campaign.

Columbia, Aug. 4.—That the county-to-county canvass, which has been conducted every two years just preceding the Democratic primary, in this State should be abolished is receiving attention in several quarters outside of political circles. There is a feeling, to judge from many expressions, that the biennial "circus," as it has been dubbed, has outgrown its usefulness and that, its continuation only serves to keep alive factional feeling.

A great many politicians strenuously oppose any suggestion looking to the elimination of the county to county tour and declare that it is the only way the "poor man" has of reaching the people with his views. Some of these admit privately that the requirements for entering the canvass ought to be more stringent and a few of them have suggested that it would be a good thing to require that a candidate must file a petition signed by a certain number of voters, say 5 per cent. before he could enter the canvass. This, they claim, would do away with the running of candidates who have no earthly chance of election and whose vote each year is so negligible as not to amount to anything. But they insist that it would never do to abolish the "circus ring" because they assert it would sound the end of any but rich candidates.

This is not agreed in by all the politicians and by a great many people. Those opposed to this canvass emphasize the incentive to personal abuse and the opportunity it affords for the campaign to degenerate into vilification and the impossibility of the discussion of issues. Not only this, they say, but the crowding of the lists affords so little time to the individual candidate that about all they can do is to state their name and the office for which they are running and then give away to the next, and so on all day until the patience of the voter is exhausted and he goes away no wiser as to platforms than when he came. Even if the vilification incentive and opportunity were absent—which probably a majority of the people will say is not—the fact that the individual candidate does not have enough time to discuss issues, makes it, in the opinion of many, absurd to have the canvass.

In the last State campaign party there were about twenty-seven candidates for the various State offices, and even allowing them ten minutes—and many of them had less than half that time—meant an all-day's speaking, wearying alike to voters and candidates.

The strenuousness of the canvass doubtless keeps many men from running for office, for many object to being dragged around from county to county like actors in a show, placed on exhibition and then hurried off to the next county seat and this for forty-four days. The canvass comes right in the middle of the hottest of the summer and the strenuous life and physical discomforts has broken down men in some instances and very few go through the campaign without some ailment.

South Carolina is the only State in the union which has a pre-election canvass under a party regulation. Other States let each candidate run his own campaign and there are many in South Carolina who want to see this State do away with the staging every two years of a ring of the aspirants for office and sending them out to play one-day engagements at every county seat in the State.

It is believed by many who have made a close study of this matter and who have no political ambitions that it would materially lessen the cost of a campaign to do away with the canvass. The candidates have to spend money for railroad fare and board and this makes a considerable item, which advocates of the movement to abolish the canvass point out would enable poor men to run for office where they are now barred by this terrific expense of making the canvass. They believe also that it would do away with factionalism and personal abuse and would mean that the candidates would discuss issues and not one another so much.

It has been stated that less than one-fourth of the voters attend the campaign meetings anyway and that by eliminating the canvass there would be opportunity for more quiet, sober judgment on the part of the voters and less chance that they would be incited to factionalism and bitterness. A great many believe that it would be a constructive and forward step to abolish the canvass.

Conference on Mexico Begun.

Washington, Aug. 5.—The all-American conference on Mexico began this afternoon behind locked doors.

PROTEST AGAINST TRAFFIC.

GERMAN-AMERICANS OPPOSED TO SALE OF WAR MUNITIONS.

Proposed Open Letter to Wilson Rejected as Too Drastic in Tone.

San Francisco, Aug. 4.—A resolution protesting against traffic in war materials between the United States and enemies of Germany was adopted today by the National German-American alliance, in convention here, but in doing so the delegates rejected a proposed open letter to President Wilson on the subject as improper and too drastic in language. The resolution carried a recommendation for the enactment of a law forbidding passenger traffic on ships transporting munitions of war.

The resolution was drawn in the name of the 2,500,000 members of the alliance as loyal American citizens. History was pointed to as evidence of this loyalty in the past, with the assurance that whatever events the future might hold, it would not find them less worthy Americans.

"However, as free citizens of this republic, we maintain the right to express our opinion upon the policies of our government," said the resolution. "Therefore, in the present controversy, we deem it our most solemn duty to do all in our power to prevent a breach between Germany and the United States."

The resolution then pointed to the American policy in Mexico and the alleged permission in the case of England of virtual violations of international law and said:

"Since America has declared for neutrality, we demand that our government, in dealing with foreign nations, adopt the same standard of treatment."

The question of prohibition, which officers of the alliance had predicted would be taken up and some measure in opposition to the movement adopted, was not touched except in an amendment to the constitution which made it an obligation of the alliance to use its influence for the betterment of conditions in liquor traffic and the modification of its evils.

It was reported today that the alliance had collected \$478,180 for the German war relief fund since the war began.

The convention's business sessions ended today.

GERMAN MARINE MEADDOO SAYS.

Efforts to Establish American Merchant Marine Will be Revived.

Cornish, August 3.—Secretary Meadeo announced today that vigorous efforts will be made at the coming session of congress to establish a merchant marine. It is probable that the ship purchase bill will be revived in the old form, but it has not been definitely decided whether it will take this or some other form.

Washington, Aug. 5.—The fact F. H. Juergens, who was arrested at San Antonio for sending threatening letters to President Wilson and Col. Roosevelt, is German has caused the secret service to start a nation-wide investigation. It is believed he acted alone, but his declaration that he is a member of a band of one hundred and fifty will be thoroughly probed.

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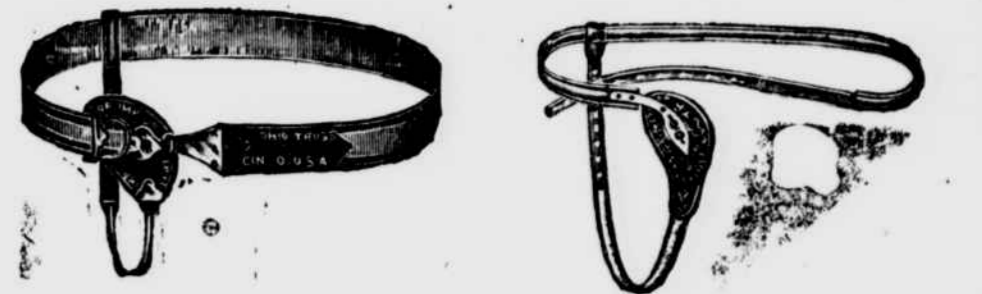
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